



August 11, 2011

Mr. Todd Snitchler Chairman The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio 180 E. Broad St. Columbus, Ohio 43215

RE: Turning Point Solar Project

NOBLE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

ROOM 210 - COURT HOUSE
CALDWITE ORIG 1024 1291
PHONE (246-12-2909)

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Dear Chairman Snitchler

As the Commissioners of Noble County, Ohio we are writing to express our strong support for the Turning Point Solar project, which is slated to be built in our County. As you are likely aware, Noble County is one of the most economically challenged counties in all of Ohio. Throughout our history, Noble County has supplied much of the "raw material" (coal, timber, etc) that has fueled Ohio Industry. These repeated cycles of "extractive industries", have left little behind in terms of meaningful, long-term economic development. The Turning Point Solar project, which intends to put a substantial portion of previously "used" land to productive use, is one of the most important economic development projects that our county has seen in some time. Some 300-plus construction and installation jobs will be created to build this solar array, the largest ever to be constructed east of the Rocky Mountains. These are direct, well-paying jobs, and thanks to the commitment of the project developers to utilize Ohio-based suppliers whenever feasible, we are confident that many additional indirect jobs will be created as well. We have a qualified and capable workforce in Noble County and we are confident that significant employment will occur as a result of this project. We also recognize the significant economic impact that the project construction and development will have on other area businesses, including motels, restaurants, fuel suppliers, etc. in our County and in the local region.

The Turning Point Solar project represents some good economic news. It is a substantial project that brings good jobs to our County and to the region, and allows us to participate in the growing renewable-energy sector of our economy. We sincerely hope that you will act to support this project.

With best regards

Partie of Thompson Robert Man

CC: Commissioners Paul A. Centolella, Steven D. Lesser, Andre T. Porter, and Cheryl Roberto and Chief of Staff Eric Weldele